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COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department/Division: Fayette Senior Services

Department Head: Debbie Britt

Presenter, if needed: Debbie Britt

Preferred Meeting Date: Thursday, February 26, 2009

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of a request from Fayette Senior Services to allow them to expand the use of their site to include a therapeutic garden.

Background/History/Details:

Senior Services has partnered with the Master Gardeners to develop and install a garden site adjacent to the Senior Services facility. Andy's Nursery has provided a layout and design from which the Master Gardeners would work. The garden would be a raised-bed garden separated by pervious lanes which would allow the beds to be accessed by those using walkers, wheelchairs, or carts. The gardens would be located on the east side of the building, between the Center and Jimmy Mayfield Blvd.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Allow Senior Services to use county-owned land for a therapeutic garden.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

No cost to the County.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past? No

If so, when?

Do you need audio-visual for the presentation? No

Back-up Material Submitted? No

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance? Yes

Reviewed by Legal? Yes

Approved by Purchasing? Yes

Approved by Administrative Staff? Yes

Staff Notes

Administrator's Approval Yes

Confirmed Meeting Date Thursday, February 26, 2009

- ○ Recognition/ Presentation
- ○ Public Hearing
- ○ Old Business
- ◉ New Business
- ○ Consent
- ○ Report
- ○ Other

From: Carol Chandler
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2009 9:23 AM
To: Floyd Jones
Subject: FW: Therapeutic Garden

Attachments: GardenPoster.pdf; Garden Raised Bed Example.pdf; Garden Site.JPG

From: Debbie Britt [mailto:dbritt@fayss.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2009 8:16 PM
To: Carol Chandler
Subject: Therapeutic Garden

Hi Carol,

The Fayette County Master Gardeners and Fayette Senior Services have collaborated to create a therapeutic garden and park to benefit members of the agency's life Enrichment Center and for the enjoyment of the community. The Master Gardeners currently supply a vast majority of the Center's fresh fruits and vegetables used in the Center's café from the Plant-a-Row garden in Fayette County. This is a significant cost savings to the agency but more importantly it provides a higher nutritional quality to the food we serve, which is an added benefit to our members.

We'd like to expand upon our community partnership with the Master Gardeners and develop our own onsite garden. Taking the concept a step further, our plans include a designing a therapeutic garden, which means aside from the tranquility the beauty of the natural design would offer, the garden would have fruits, vegetables and flowers that will be grown in ergonomic-designed raised beds so anyone could enjoy gardening regardless of physical limitations. The pathways would be made of concrete to make the garden accessible by walkers, motorized scooters or wheelchairs. The design also includes a pergola with benches to for visitors who may simply want to enjoy the park-like setting. We have a significant number of members who are avid gardeners and have expressed a desire to have a garden onsite for their enjoyment. Additionally, this beautification "green" project would likely become a signature landmark in Fayette County and will make a significant contribution to the community's quality of life. A landscape rendering and photo are attached for reference.

The land adjacent to the Center (near the Jimmy Mayfield entrance) would be optimal for such a project. See attached photo for reference. If the land could be considered the project would be fully funded by FSS (underwritten by contributions/grants). The entire project is estimated to cost $35,000-$40,000 and Fayette Senior Services has raised approximately $1,600 in seed money for the project. Fayette Senior Services, Tim Martin, landscape architect with Andy's Nursery (in-kind contributor of the garden plan/rendering), and Susan Stewart, Master Gardener are prepared to present the plan details to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Best regards,

Debbie

Debbie Britt
Executive Director
Fayette Senior Services, Inc.
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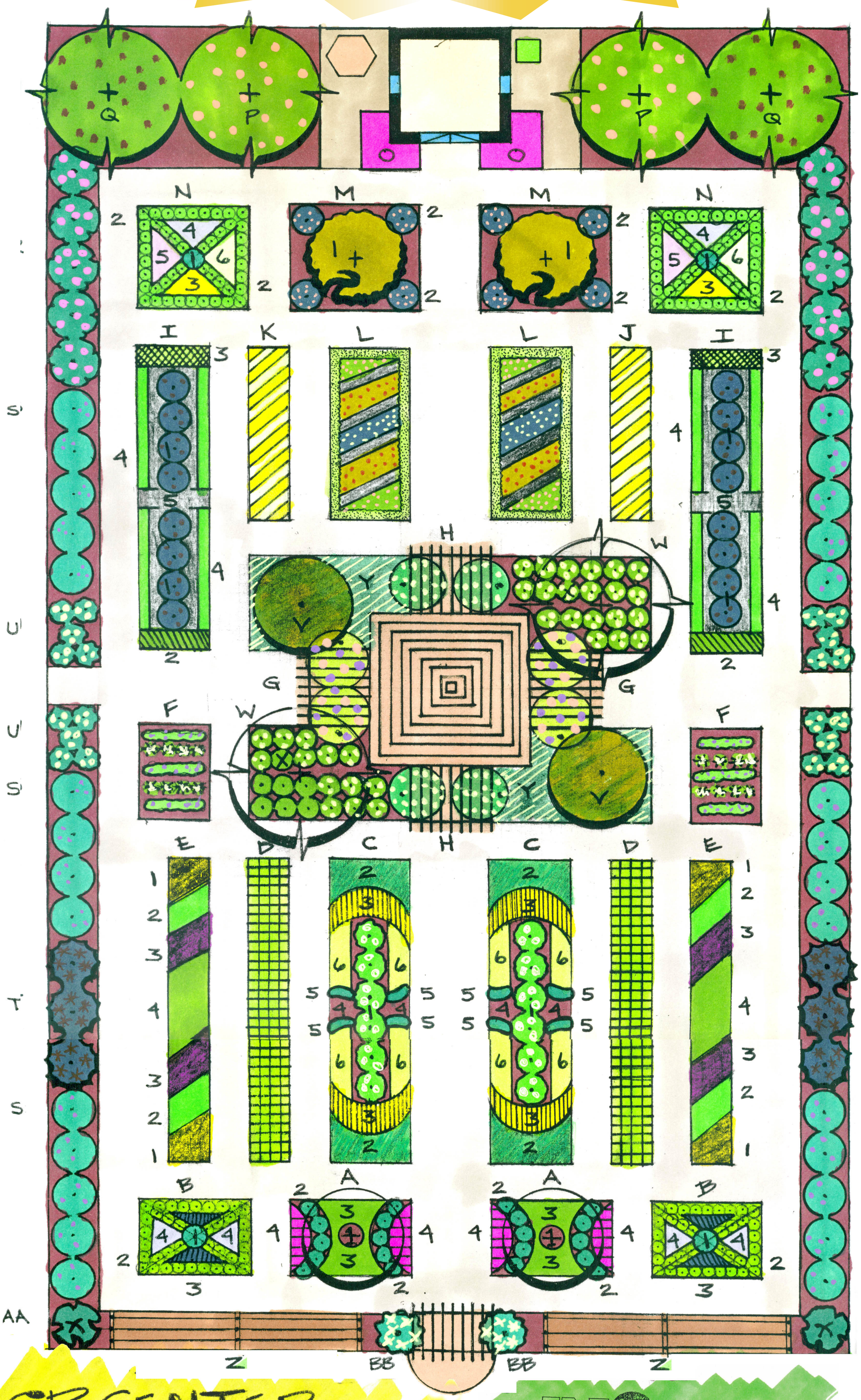
4 Center Drive
Fayetteville, GA 30214

Fayette Senior Services Therapeutic Garden Project



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LSD T. MARTIN
SCALE 1" = 10'